## **NEWS FOR VETERANS**

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## <u>ATTENTION VETERANS AND SUPPORTERS</u>

Please attend a very important Senate hearing on AB 1077 (Wesson), which provides an additional \$100 million in Lease Revenue Bond authority to fully fund (along with USDVA partnership grant funds) the five future veterans homes.

Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Tuesday, August 24, 2004 11:00 a.m. Room 3191 State Capitol.

The California Department of Veterans Affairs urges you to attend this hearing and express your support for our state's veterans and to California's commitment to providing aged or disabled veterans with medical care and services in home-like environments.

California has a documented need for more veterans' homes to provide these much needed services. Construction of the five veterans homes currently in the planning stages for Lancaster, Ventura, West Los Angeles, Fresno and Redding is essential to meeting this need for more Veterans Homes beds.

However, these five future veterans homes are <u>currently in jeopardy of being downsized or eliminated</u> if additional funding is not secured by the Legislature this week before it adjourns.

This bill is necessary to avoid further delays, reductions, or elimination of these much-needed Veterans Homes. AB 1077 would also preserve California's status on the USDVA Priority One list for funding needs, and reaffirm California's commitment to its 2.3 million veterans. AB 1077 is the *only* piece of legislation that will fully fund all five Veterans Homes with the support of Governor Schwarzenegger, the Department of Veterans Affairs and a bipartisan coalition of legislators.

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